

**REPORT TO THE  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF  
CARBON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
Tuesday, April 4, 2023, and April 11, 2023  
Carbon Building- Courthouse Annex**

A regular meeting of the Board of Carbon County Commissioners (BOCC) commenced Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the Carbon Building-Courthouse Annex in Rawlins, WY. Attending the meeting were Chairman, Sue Jones, Vice Chairman, Travis Moore, Commissioners John Espy, and Byron Barkhurst. Commissioner John Johnson was absent.

**ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS**

Commissioner Espy moved to amend the agenda to leave approval of bills, consent agenda, the opioid settlement contract, Planning & Development Certificates of Recommended Action, and postponing all other items to April 11 at the same time. Commissioner Barkhurst seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**VOUCHERS**

Commissioner Espy moved to approve the report of expenditures for an aggregate total today of \$607,606.56. Commissioner Barkhurst seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Detail Line Description</b>	<b>Total</b>
Abels, Duane E.	County Health Officer	\$1,600.00
Advanced Network Mgmt., Inc.	Annual Software Licenses	\$58,923.70
Alameda, Glen	County Rd 499 Snow Removal	\$2,725.00
APEX Communications	Radio Repair Supplies	\$220.47
Axis Forensic Toxicology, Inc.	Lab Services	\$1,134.00
Barcodes	Ink Ribbons	\$404.00
Benjamin, Larry	Mileage	\$45.10
Black Hills Energy	Gas Services	\$18,116.14
Blakeman Propane	Heating Services	\$3,316.14
Bomgaars Supply	Nut Grinder/Cutting Wheel	\$5.49
Capitol Communications	Phone Support for IP in Circuit Court	\$255.00
Carbon County Fair Board	Out Agency Fair Board	\$4,166.67
Carbon County Library	Out Agency Library Board	\$30,299.31
Carbon County Museum	Out Agency Museum Board	\$18,750.00
Carbon County Senior Services	Out Agency Cc Senior Services Inc	\$18,750.00
Charter Communications	Jail Cable	\$120.13
Communication Technologies	Reprogrammed Radio	\$110.00
Cowboy Chemical	Cleaning Supplies-Jail	\$520.10
Dallin Motors Inc.	Vehicle Repairs and Tires	\$4,067.28

Davis, Ashley	Attorney Travel	\$534.60
Dirty Boyz Sanitation, Inc.	Trash Services	\$1,804.50
Dixon, Town of	Water Services	\$308.00
Dominion Energy	Heating Services	\$325.56
Dynamic Controls Inc	Jail Camera System	\$1,811.00
Elevated Safety Solutions	Random Drug Test/DOT Lab Fees	\$72.00
Elk Mountain Conoco	Fuel	\$947.90
Elk Mountain Iron Works	Contract Snow Removal-Elk Mtn	\$7,065.00
Elk Mountain, Town of	Water Services	\$6,068.50
Encartele	Jail Data	\$1,350.00
Engineering Associates	Brush Creek Chip Seal Project	\$647.50
FCI Constructors of WY	Courthouse Renovation	\$164,031.75
Frontier Access & Mobility Sys. Inc.	Down Pymt-Lift	\$8,610.00
Further	Medical FSA & Health Reimb.	\$2,525.36
Galls/Quartermaster	Deputy Uniforms & Ballistic Vest	\$3,071.80
Grainger	Elect Actuator	\$394.95
Greiner Ford of Casper	Vehicle Repair	\$460.48
Gulbrandson, Kimberly A.	Mileage	\$9.90
Hanna, Town of	Water Services	\$254.22
High Plains Power	Electric Services	\$529.19
Iacovetto, Karon	Cleaning Services	\$8,230.00
Interior Galore	Final Pymt on Carpet for Jail	\$1,568.00
Iron J Towing	Vehicle Tow Charges	\$1,031.00
Jack's Body & Fender Repair	Service Call/Tow Charges	\$763.00
Jordair Compressors Inc	Breathing Apparatus Control	\$1,900.41
K2 Towers III, LLC	Tower Rent	\$2,185.45
Kaluzny, Emily	March Phone Use	\$30.00
Kilburn Tire Company	Tires/Tire Balance	\$7,329.18
Laramie County Clerk	2023 Congressional Tour Assess.	\$785.00
Laramie Fire Protection	Fire Alarm Monitoring Fee	\$540.00
McKesson Medical-Surgical	Jail Med Supplies	\$167.76
Medicine Bow, Town of	Fire/Accident Services	\$5,418.75
M.H.C.C.	Lab Fees & E.D. Fees	\$13,872.22
Mid-American Research Chemical	Black Super Strip	\$61.11
Moser, LLC	Cleared Frozen Blocked Line	\$480.00
Mountain Alarm	Alarm Monitoring	\$47.90
NAPA - Saratoga	Power Window Switch	\$919.87
NMS Labs	Lab Fees	\$277.00
Norco, Inc.	Oxygen Cylinders	\$407.38
Northern Truck Equipment Co.	Fans & Snowblower Parts	\$5,866.18
Office of the State Public Defender	FY2023 County Supplement- Budget	\$37,719.28

Olde Trading Post	Fuel	\$138.97
O'Reilly Auto Parts	Misc. Parts	\$576.67
Parker, Elizabeth	Mileage	\$79.97
Perkins Oil Co.	Fuel	\$3,009.52
Personnel Evaluation, Inc.	Pre-Employment Evals	\$75.00
Phillips 66-Conoco-76	Fuel	\$30.84
Plus Electric Inc.	Overhead Crane Maintenance	\$1,094.72
Quill Corporation	Misc. Office Supplies	\$124.96
R.P. Lumber Company, Inc.	Closet Ring Replacement	\$8.69
Rawlins Automotive	Misc. Parts and Supplies	\$841.29
Safeguard Business Systems	PR & AP Check Stock	\$475.89
Saratoga Sun	Misc. Ads.	\$156.80
Schaeffer Mfg. Co.	Oil Baggs/Dixon Shop	\$2,259.63
Shepard's	Fuel	\$7,379.70
Shively Hardware	Misc. Supplies	\$86.34
Sinclair Technologies	Elk Mtn East Comshel	\$66,677.00
Slow & Steady Law Office, PLLC	Legal Services	\$13,030.00
Staples Advantage	Misc. Office Supplies	\$639.25
State of Wyoming A & I	Mainframe Services	\$17.69
Stinker Stores Inc.	Fuel	\$24,355.06
Summit Food Service	Jail Meals	\$7,984.01
Swanson Services Corporation	Jail Commissary Supplies	\$1,946.29
Terminix	Pest Control	\$193.00
The Master's Touch, LLC	Mailing Services	\$2,156.00
Tyler Technologies, Inc	Web Hosting Fee	\$275.63
UPRSWDD	Trash Services	\$190.00
US Bank	Jail Health	\$2,215.08
Walker, Deborah C.	Patches/Flags Sewn on Shirts	\$475.00
Wohl, Judith	Mileage	\$66.00
WY Behavioral Institute	Impatient Treatment	\$1,508.00
WY Coroner's Association	2023 Dues	\$175.00
WY Dept of Transportation	Dixon Airport Fuel License Renewal	\$317.56
WY Machinery Company	Parts Credit	\$7,601.63
WY Cleaning & Solutions LLC	County Cleaning Services-Courthouse	\$6,583.33
Zumbrennen Electric Inc.	Elevator Maintenance	\$911.81

## CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Espy moved to approve the consent agenda noting any item could be removed for separate action. The consent agenda includes the March 21, 2023, regular meeting minutes, and monthly receipts from Planning and Development in the amount of \$5,200.00. Commissioner Barkhurst seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Certifications**

Mrs. Brugger presented certifications of recommended action on behalf of the Carbon County Planning & Zoning Commission and requested a public hearing be scheduled for each. The applicants are Z.C. Case #2023-01 – Frank and Jeri Holzworth, C.U. Case #2023-03 – Union Telephone Company and C.U. Case #2023-04 – Union Telephone Company.

Commissioner Espy moved to accept Certifications of Recommended Action from the Carbon County Planning & Zoning Commission for Zone Change Case #2023-01 - Frank and Jeri Holzworth, Conditional Use Case #2023-03 - Union Telephone Company and Conditional Use Case #2023-04 – Union Telephone Company and schedule a public hearing for Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. at the Carbon Building – Courthouse Annex. Commissioner Barkhurst seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Attorney**

Ashley Mayfield Davis, Carbon County Civil Attorney presented contracts to participate in litigation for Allergan Opioid Settlements for board approval and Chairman's signature.

Commissioner Espy moved to approve the Chairman's electronic signature on the Subdivision and Special District Settlement Participation Forms for the Allergan Opioid Settlements with Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart. Commissioner Barkhurst seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Recess**

Chairman Jones recessed the meeting at 9:08 a.m. until April 11, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

### **REPORT TO THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CARBON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING April 11, 2023 Carbon Building- Courthouse Annex**

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order April 11, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the Carbon Building-Courthouse Annex in Rawlins, WY. Attending the meeting were Chairman, Sue Jones, Vice Chairman, Travis Moore, Commissioners John Espy, and John Johnson. Commissioner Byron Barkhurst was absent.

### **Employee Recognition**

County Clerk Gwynn Bartlett overviewed employees having reached years of service milestones in April.

### **ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS**

## **Emergency Management**

Lenny Layman, Emergency Management Coordinator presented a Memorandum of Understanding for board approval and Chairman's signature to allow the Town of Medicine Bow use of the county's sandbagger machine.

Commissioner Espy moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Medicine Bow and the Carbon County Office of Emergency Management for the use of the sandbagger for the purpose of flood mitigation and the benefit of public health and safety. Commissioner Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Layman introduced Little Snake River EMS Paramedic, Mark Meyer to discuss the Dr. Told Mass Casualty Exercise that will be held on June 2 through June 4 in Baggs, WY.

Mr. Layman presented a monthly update for the Office of Emergency Management to include meetings and upcoming trainings/exercises.

## **Library**

Maria Wenzel, Executive Director of the Carbon County Library presented the 2022 Annual Report for the library system to include her current staff, yearly statistics and the different programs that were offered last year.

## **Clerk**

Clerk Bartlett presented an amendment to the Standard Life Policy for board approval and Chairman's signature. The amendment is to change the eligibility waiting period to the first of the month following the date of hire.

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Request for Group Insurance Amendment with Standard Insurance Company to amend the eligibility waiting period to the first of the month following the date of hire. Commissioner Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented the Blue Cross Blue Shield 2022 Associate Agreement for board approval and Chairman's signature.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Blue Cross Blue Shield 2022 Associate Agreement for the purpose of setting forth the terms and conditions with respect to the handling of Protected Health Information. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented a Grant Award Agreement for board approval and Chairman's signature.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Grant Award Agreement between the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security and Carbon County for the purchase of 4

AED's to be placed on each floor of the courthouse, in the amount of \$13,237.24 and for a term of January 1, 2023, through August 31, 2023. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett reported she sent the total cost of the Interim Justice Center to the BOCC including the purchase price and all remodel costs. She mentioned that there may be private interest in purchasing and Commissioner Jones reported that the newly formed fire district may be interested in the building but would need to look at it. While it's very large there is a lot of room for training and they could potentially have an agreement for the Sheriff to utilize the garage space and rent other space out. Commissioner Johnson asked Mike Newbrough to provide the district with a monthly operating cost and directed the Clerk to wait to proceed with anything until the district looks at the building.

#### **Sheriff**

Alex Bakken, Carbon County Sheriff presented a Memorandum of Understanding for board approval and Chairman's signature. This provides mutual aid with Albany County.

Commissioner Espy moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Memorandum of Understanding between Albany County Sheriff's Office and Carbon County Sheriff's Office for Mutual Aid and for a term through one month beyond the term of either current Sheriff. Commissioner Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Sheriff Bakken reported that he continues to work on school security including the threat assessment committee that he belongs to. He invited the BOCC to a firearms demonstration on Monday, April 17 from 12-1 p.m. they will be demonstrating firearms they are proposing to purchase.

#### **Road & Bridge**

Kandis Fritz, Road and Bridge Coordinator discussed the Winter 2022-2023 maintenance costs for snow removal. During the months of December 2022 through March 2023 fuel costs were \$152,155.72. Overtime and Comp time payout from January 1<sup>st</sup> through March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, was a total of \$53,438.91. Contractor Services for the Seminoe Road, Elk Mountain area and North of Muddy Gap were \$32,066.43. She overviewed other road specific costs in the county noting she is at her budgeted amount already this fiscal year for many categories.

Ms. Fritz stated that if her office proceeds with the purchase of gravel items on this year's budget she will need a budget amendment. Due to the potential wetness of the roads this spring, she is proposing to wait to gravel roads until late summer or early fall and not apply any mag chloride this year. She did note that if no mag chloride is applied this year, the roads will washboard severely and will require weekly blading.

Ms. Fritz also stated that she received a letter from a Carbon County resident who resides on County Road 205 in Saratoga who is specifically requesting that the use of mag chloride not be used on that road. She stated this road was her priority for gravel however with the budget situation

and mud this spring, fall or next year will likely be her suggestion for this application. She thinks mag chloride will hold the road together better and with a limited number of employees they will not have time to blade that road weekly.

### **Building and Grounds**

Mike Newbrough, Carbon County Building and Grounds Manager provided an update for the electrical upgrade project on the pig barn located at the fairgrounds. Mr. Newbrough stated that he has received two quotes for the electrical upgrade from ACME Electric Company LLC in the amount of \$35,993.55 and from Zumbrennen Electric Inc. in the amount of \$45,488.90. He asked the board how they would like to proceed, noting ACME did not add as much electricity coming in and he and the Fair Board both feel Zumbrennen's is more appropriate for the number of plugs they need during fair time.

Commissioner Espy moved to award the fairgrounds pig barn electrical project to Zumbrennen Electric Inc for the estimated amount of \$45,488.90 utilizing general fund reserves. Commissioner Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Newbrough also provided an update on the potential generator replacement at the Jeffrey Center. He stated that he had an electrician evaluate the generator and compared that with the electrical needs of the Jeffrey Center. The electrician stated that the Jeffrey Center would require a minimum of 150KW generator to run the elevator, heating/cooling, and lights. Currently the Jeffrey Center has a 35KW generator which will not even run the elevator. Mr. Newbrough is working with the Office of Emergency Management and the Wyoming Department of Health on obtaining a grant to offset the costs for replacement of the generator. Mr. Layman asked if the IJC generator could be placed at the Fairgrounds multiplex as the county's shelter. The BOCC approved the placement of the IJC generator at the fairgrounds.

Mr. Newbrough stated that he received a quote from Dynamic Controls in the amount of \$16,505.00 to replace all 5 of the heating coils on the three air handlers at the Jeffrey Center. The new coils will come with a pressure relief device installed on the coils that would prevent pressure buildups, damage to the coils, and reduce the amount of time to get the heating system back online. Mr. Newbrough reported he received an estimate of \$115,939.00 to eliminate the pneumatic system which has mostly been bypassed at this time anyhow. He suggested holding off on any decision on these projects until budget time.

Mr. Newbrough also received an estimate from Valley Fire Extinguisher to upgrade the hood systems at the Baggs, Hanna, Medicine Bow Senior Centers, Detention Center and the Fairgrounds Concession Stands. Commissioner Johnson asked if Warden Rutherford could assist in looking at these hoods and noted that Mr. Newbrough would return at budget time.

### **Planning and Development**

Sarah Brugger, County Planning Director updated the board on the Carbon County Land Use Plan proposals. She originally received 4 proposals but sent two back unopened as they were late due to continued road closures. Ultimately the BOCC asked her to extend the deadline and she now

received proposals from Cushing Terrell, Y2 Consultants, Rural Community Consultants (RCC) and SE Group. According to the rubric she used Y2 Consultants and SE Group were the top 2 with the SE Group ranking slightly higher. For the SE Group, she liked the project strategy, the timeline, and how they recognized and included discussion on renewables and the fiscal impact analysis. Plus, the price was attractive. For the Y2 Consultants, they are a Wyoming based company with a Wyoming perspective. The BOCC prefers to interview these two firms prior to moving forward.

Commissioner Espy moved to designate Chairman Jones and Vice Chairman Moore to interview Land Use Plan finalists Y2 Consultants and SE Group. Commissioner Johnson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Planner Brugger reported that a draft of the subdivision regulations has been submitted to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

### **Attorney**

Ashley Mayfield Davis, Carbon County Civil Attorney presented a Memorandum of Agreement with OneWyo II Opioid Settlement for board approval and Chairman's signature. This agreement designates the split between the State and other agencies for opioid settlement funding.

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Memorandum of Agreement with OneWyo II Opioid Settlement. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Espy moved to go into executive session at 10:33 a.m. with Clerk Bartlett, Ashley Mayfield Davis and Sarah Brugger to discuss personnel, potential litigation and other matters considered confidential by law. Commissioner Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Espy moved to come out of executive session at 10:59 a.m. noting no action was taken and that the minutes be signed and sealed. Commissioner Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OF CARBON COUNTY (MHCC)**

Ken Harmon, Chief Executive Officer for Memorial Hospital of Carbon County provided an update on the status of MHCC including financials, an interim CFO has been hired, as well as COVID cases, testing and vaccines. Mr. Harmon stated that the hospital's audit has been completed and submitted to Clerk Bartlett.

### **COMMISSIONERS DISCUSSION**

Vice Chairman Moore updated the board regarding the committee removing the recreational piece out of the proposal for the National Heritage area designation. He stated that the board will be able to review a letter of support to Natrona County Commissioners later this week.

Commissioner Espy discussed the WCCA Group regarding Sage Grouse Conservation. So far 15 Wyoming Counties are participating. Commissioner Espy also stated that BLM is looking at a new rule that would place conservation on the same footing as regular multiple use areas.

Commissioner Johnson stated that he attended the open house on another inter tie project in Carbon County. The inter tie will connect to the Aeolus substation.

Chairman Jones thanked Kody Stocks for the snow removal at the Dixon Airport.

Chairman Jones stated that Aaron Durst has resigned from the Rawlins Carbon County Airport Board, and she wanted to personally thank him for his service to the board.

#### **RECESS**

Chairman Jones recessed the meeting at 11:19 a.m.

Chairman Jones called the meeting back to order at 11:43 a.m.

#### **2023 CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH PROCLAMATION**

Sarah Chavez Harkins, Carbon County Prosecuting Attorney introduced Natosha Martinez, the Guardian ad Litem for Carbon County, Katrina Price, DFS Supervisor for Albany and Carbon Counties, Julie Hahn, Victim Advocate for the Rawlins Police Department, Tina Shinkle and Austyn Tuttle both who are victim advocate volunteers for the Rawlins Police Department, Lauretta Hansen, the Carbon County Sheriff's Office Victim/Witness Coordinator and Sheriff Bakken. Attorney Chavez Harkins presented and read the Proclamation for 2023 Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Commissioner Johnson moved to adopt April as the 2023 Child Abuse Prevention Month and authorize the Chairman's signature on the Proclamation for the 2023 Child Abuse Prevention Month. Commissioner Espy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

#### ***COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCLAMATION*** *Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month*

**Whereas**, Children are our future. No child should suffer abuse and neglect; and

**Whereas**, victims of child abuse and neglect are known to be at higher risk for experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, low academic achievement, drug use, juvenile delinquency, teenage pregnancy, and adult criminality. Every child is precious and deserves to grow up in a healthy, safe, nurturing environment free from harmful effects of abuse and neglect; and

**Whereas**, an estimated 1000 children in Wyoming are victims of abuse and neglect each year; and

**Whereas**, an estimated 85 children in Carbon County were victims of abuse and neglect over the past year; and

**Whereas**, effective child abuse intervention and community prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among community members, social services, schools, churches, businesses, and civic organizations; and

**Whereas**, local partners who include but are not limited to the Department of Family Services, Wyoming Guardian *ad Litem* program, Carbon County Sheriff's Office and its Victim/Witness Program, Rawlins Police Department and its Victim/Witness Program, Saratoga Police Department, Encampment Police Department, Medicine Bow Marshal's Office, Wyoming Highway Patrol, Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation, Carbon County School District #1, Carbon County School District #2, Memorial Hospital of Carbon County and local medical providers, Boys and Girls Club of Carbon County, Big Brother's Big Sisters, Stepping Stones Youth Home operated by Volunteers of America, Carbon County Attorney's Office, Child Advocacy Project, County of Carbon, Wyoming and other partners regularly join together in an effort to prevent abuse and neglect through outreach, education, and intervention.

**Whereas**, each April, Child Advocacy Centers of Wyoming, Children's Trust Fund Board, Prevent Child Abuse Wyoming, Wyoming Citizen Review Panel, Wyoming Department of Family Services, Wyoming Office of Attorney General- Division of Victim Services, Wyoming Guardian *ad Litem* program, the County of Carbon, Wyoming and other partners join together in an effort to prevent abuse and neglect through outreach, education, and intervention.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Sue Jones, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Carbon County Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2023 as \*\*\*\*\* **CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH** \*\*\*\*\*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the County of Carbon to be affixed this 4th day of April, two thousand twenty-three.

-s-      Sue Jones, Chairman  
On behalf of the Carbon County  
Board of County Commissioners

Attest: -s- Gwynn Bartlett, Carbon County Clerk

**GATEWAY WEST SEGMENT D-1 TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT EXTENSION REQUEST**

Sarah Brugger, County Planning Director reported that PacifiCorp has requested an extension for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) approved by Resolution No. 2021-06, C.U. Case File #2020-15 – Gateway West Segment D-1 Transmission Line Project, approved February 2, 2021. Her office received an official extension request on March 31, 2023. She noted that her office recently noticed that the CUP permit had expired and if the project did not commence within two years the permit is null and void except for extension in compliance with the rules. The extension must be requested at least 90 days prior to the expiration of the CUP. Ms. Brugger mentioned the county does not have a process in place when the receipt of an extension is late.

Brandon Smith, the Director of Project Delivery with PacifiCorp stated that he had received an email from Ashley Mayfield Davis on March 30, 2023, stating that the Conditional Use Permit

was null and void because the project had not commenced within the 2 years from the date the Conditional Permit was issued. He acknowledged they were aware of the 2-year deadline however during this time they have awarded the construction contract and performed an engineering survey, environmental surveys, received approximately seven structures that will be installed in Carbon County. He noted that it was "probably our false assumption" that performing those activities did mean commencing work therefore they thought there was no need to apply for an extension previously. Approximately 50 miles are in another county with about 10 miles in Carbon County and they haven't quite gotten to Carbon County work yet.

Commissioner Espy asked when construction would commence in Carbon County and Mr. Smith estimated 4 weeks. Commissioner Espy followed up with questions about wildlife restrictions in Carbon County and Mr. Smith stated there are no sage grouse restrictions but there are raptor and other larger wildlife restrictions being removed in April. Attorney Davis asked when actual structures would be built and he replied approximately 1 week after road work and that the latter part of May they should be in full swing of structures.

Commissioner Johnson stated that the CUP is expired and he does not feel they have any avenues to extend it. Attorney Davis agreed that the authority for an extension ends after the permit expires. Mr. Smith stated that from PacifiCorp's standpoint they thought they had commenced work with the activities that have taken place. Ms. Brugger read Section 7.7h noting there must be physical assets constructed to meet this definition including issuance of a building permit, which has not been issued to date.

Commissioner Moore asked the timeline to reapply for a CUP. Ms. Brugger stated there would be a new application taking 3-6 months due to public notice requirements.

Attorney Davis clarified there is a 30-day publication period prior to the P&Z Commission then published again an additional 14 days prior to BOCC hearing. Ms. Brugger thought June would be the earliest meeting with the BOCC to hear it in July.

Chairman Jones thought being consistent with implementation of the county's own rules she sees no other choice than to start over with the county considering a new CUP permit.

Richard Wilson, County Planning Commissioner, asked if there were no CUP in Carbon County that would jeopardize other permits they have received.

## **PACIFICORP PROJECT UPDATE**

Shane Sibrel, Regional Business Manager for PacifiCorp introduced the project team present today including Ryan McGraw - VP of Project Development, Sharon Fain - VP for Wyoming, Brandon Smith - Director of Project Delivery, Laine Anderson - Director of Wind Operation, and Brian Taylor - Senior Project Manager (Contractor).

Brandon Smith provided an update on their energy development efforts in Carbon County. They are proposing a 500-kilovolt transmission line. As part of PacifiCorp's Energy Vision 2030 initiative, the company is proposing construction of a new 500-kilovolt, 143-mile Gateway D2.2

transmission line from Shirley Basin substation near Medicine Bow to Jim Bridger substation near Point of Rocks. This new transmission is needed to strengthen the electric reliability of PacifiCorp's transmission system, provide critical voltage support to the Wyoming transmission network, mitigate the impact of outages on the existing system, enhance PacifiCorp's ability to comply with mandated reliability and performance standards, and reduce line losses. The new transmission line will also relieve existing transmission constraints, increase transfer capability, and enable interconnection of new renewable capacity. Ms. Brugger reminded PacifiCorp that substation expansions or new construction require building permits in Carbon County.

Commissioners Espy and Johnson expressed his concern with the fact that this line goes right through the middle of sage grouse core area.

Ryan McGraw VP of Project Development for PacifiCorp discussed their Energy Vision 2020 projects that included three windfarms. Ekola Flats and TB Flats I and II. In addition, they repowered Seven Mile Hill I and II, High Plains / McFadden Ridge, Dunlap and Foote Creek.

Mr. McGraw discussed their 2024 plans which include Rock Creek I and II in addition to third party projects including Two Rivers in Carbon County as well as three other projects in other counties. They are also working towards more wind repowering projects including Foote Creek North and Rock River. For 2030 PacifiCorp is working towards four more projects in Carbon County including Aeolus Storage, TB Flats I Solar, TB Flats II Solar and Dunlap Solar. The intention of these projects is to repurpose existing footprints and interconnecting substations already built on Shirley Basin. There have been no permits sought at this time and they will continue to work on environmental studies and move forward from there.

Commissioner Johnson asked more about the layout of a solar facility. Mr. McGraw stated each battery is like a Connex container laid out over the project site. They plan for lithium-ion batteries with catch basins and if there were a fire or leak they are completely self-contained.

Lane Anderson, Director of Wind Operations with PacifiCorp discussed the aircraft detention lighting systems (ADLS). They are working on improved technology and plan for all PacifiCorp projects in Carbon County to have ADLS by December 2025.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Espy moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:42 p.m. Commissioner Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

A regular meeting of this Board will be held Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. and a Budget Workshop will be held on Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. Both meetings will be held at the Carbon Building – Courthouse Annex, located at 215 W. Buffalo St. Suite 240C, Rawlins, WY. The public is invited to attend, or you can listen online at the website listed below. To get on the agenda, call the Clerk's Office by the Thursday before the meeting. Per Wyo. Stat. §18-3-516(f), access to county information can be obtained at [www.carbonwy.com](http://www.carbonwy.com) or by calling the Clerk's Office at (307) 328-2668 or 1-800-250-9812.